

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE COMMON COUNCIL
OF THE CITY OF PLATTSBURGH, NEW YORK**

January 9, 2014

5:30 P.M.

MINUTES

Present: Mayor James Calnon, Councilors Rachelle Armstrong (W1), Mike Kelly (W2), Dale Dowdle (W3), Paul O'Connell (W4), Becky Kasper (W5), Joshua Kretser (W6)

Absent: None

1. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING:

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the regular meeting of the Common Council held on January 2, 2014 and the 2014 Organizational meeting held on January 2, 2014 are approved and placed on file among the public records of the City Clerk's Office.

By Councilor Kasper; Seconded by Councilor Kelly
Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Kelly, Dowdle, O'Connell, Kasper, Kretser
(All voted in the affirmative)

2. PAYROLLS OF VARIOUS DEPARTMENTS:

RESOLVED: That the payrolls of the various Departments of the City of Plattsburgh for the week ending January 8, 2014 in the amount of \$ 260,292.50 are authorized and allowed and the Mayor and the City Clerk are hereby empowered and directed to sign warrants drawn on the City Chamberlain for the payment thereof.

By Councilor Armstrong; Seconded by Councilor Dowdle
Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Kelly, Dowdle, O'Connell, Kasper, Kretser
(All voted in the affirmative)

3. REPORTS OF CITY OFFICES & COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- Report of Fire and Ambulance Responses for the weeks of January 2 – January 8, 2014
- Report from the Building Inspector's Office January 8, 2014

RESOLVED: That the reports as listed are hereby ordered received and placed on file among the public records of the City Clerk's Office.

By Councilor Kretser; Seconded by Councilor Kasper
Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Kelly, Dowdle, O'Connell, Kasper, Kretser
(All voted in the affirmative)

4. CORRESPONDENCE & RECOMMENDATIONS FROM BOARDS: None

5. AUDIT OF CLAIMS:

RESOLVED: That the bills Audited by the Common Council in the amount of **\$1,225,763.64** are authorized and allowed and the Mayor and City Clerk are hereby authorized and directed to sign warrants drawn on the City Chamberlain for the payment thereof.

By Councilor Kretser; Seconded by Councilor Armstrong
Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Kelly, Dowdle, O'Connell, Kasper, Kretser
(All voted in the affirmative)

6. PERSONS ADDRESSING COUNCIL: None

7. OTHER ITEMS:

A. RESOLVED: In accordance with the request therefore the Common Council approves the Clinton County Health Department to hold the "Longest Day of Play" at the City Recreation Center and US Oval fields on June 27, 2014 from 6am-6pm.

By Councilor Kasper; Seconded by Councilor Kelly
Discussion: None
Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Kelly, Dowdle, O'Connell, Kasper, Kretser
(All voted in the affirmative)

ACTION TAKEN: Adopted
Follow up Action: None

B. RESOLVED: In accordance with the request therefore the Common Council approves Adirondack District Twin Rivers Council Boy Scouts of America to hold a camporee on the north end of the Base Oval September 12 – 14, 2014 during the Battle of Plattsburgh Commemoration.

By Councilor Kretser; Seconded by Councilor Dowdle
Discussion:

Councilor Dowdle asked Steve Peters if he has heard a number.

Superintendent Steve Peters said 300 to 400.

Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Kelly, Dowdle, O'Connell, Kasper, Kretser
(All voted in the affirmative)
ACTION TAKEN: Adopted
Follow up Action: None

C. MAYOR CALNON HANDS DOWN THE RE-APPOINTMENT OF WILLIAM LAUNDRY AS MARRIAGE OFFICER FOR THE CITY OF PLATTSBURGH EFFECTIVE FEBRUARY 1, 2014 THROUGH JANUARY 31, 2017.

Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Kelly, Dowdle, O'Connell, Kasper, Kretser
(All voted in the affirmative)

ACTION TAKEN: Adopted

Follow up Action: None

D. MAYOR CALNON HANDS DOWN THE APPOINTMENT OF KELLY DONOGHUE AS MARRIAGE OFFICER FOR THE CITY OF PLATTSBURGH EFFECTIVE FEBRUARY 1, 2014 THROUGH JANUARY 31, 2017.

Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Kelly, Dowdle, O'Connell, Kasper, Kretser
(All voted in the affirmative)

ACTION TAKEN: Adopted

Follow up Action: None

E. Motion to adopt the Common Council proposed 2014 Budget, last revised on January 3rd, 2014.

By Councilor Armstrong; Seconded by Councilor Dowdle

Discussion: None

Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Kelly, Dowdle, O'Connell, Kasper, Kretser
(All voted in the affirmative)

ACTION TAKEN: Adopted

Follow up Action: None

F. RESOLVED: In accordance with the request therefore the Common Council approves the proposed 2014 Budget, last revised on January 3rd, 2014, as evidenced by the attached 2014 Budget Resolution making appropriations for the fiscal year beginning January 1, 2014, and ending December 31, 2014, and levying the property tax for the fiscal year 2014, as further evidenced by the attached 2014 Tax Warrant for the City of Plattsburgh. The complete Common Council Budget is attached dated January 7th, 2014, included with the 2014 Capital Expenditure Plan, the City Assessor's reports of the 2013 tax roll, omitted taxes and S495 Exemption Impact Report, the City of Plattsburgh report of the Summary of 2014 Operating Budget by Fund, the twenty-four year tax assessment, tax rate, tax levy comparison report and the County of Clinton's 2014 tax warrant certifying the City of Plattsburgh share of the 2014 County tax levy.

By Councilor Kretser; Seconded by Councilor Kelly

Discussion:

Councilor Armstrong wanted to take this opportunity to thank the prior council for the opportunity to be part of the budget discussions. This approval is an informed approval.

Councilor Kelly said he is pleased with the budget that the previous council made. He looked at it very carefully and as Rachelle said we were allowed to provide input which was very generous. He said he thinks the voters in his ward will be comfortable with also. He said if he remembered it correctly the levy goes up 2.23% and the rate is - 1.52%. I just hope at the end of the year the

revenues match or exceed the outlays.

Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Kelly, Dowdle, O'Connell, Kasper, Kretser
(All voted in the affirmative)

ACTION TAKEN: Adopted

Follow up Action: None

8. TRAVEL REQUEST:

A. RESOLVED: In accordance with the request therefore the Common Council approves two police officers to attend "ARIDE Advanced Roadside Impaired Driving Enforcement Training" in Watertown, NY from January 27 – 29, 2014. The cost will not exceed \$641 and will be expensed to the Asset Seizure Fund (training expenses).

By Councilor Kasper; Seconded by Councilor Kretser

Discussion: None

Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Kelly, Dowdle, O'Connell, Kasper, Kretser
(All voted in the affirmative)

ACTION TAKEN: Adopted

Follow up Action: None

9. RESOLUTIONS FOR INITIAL CONSIDERATION:

1. Consideration of a request that the City of Plattsburgh abandon part of an unused street right of way known as Nevada Oval West.

10. NEW BUSINESS:

Mayor Calnon asked Steve Peters to speak about good news under "new business."

Superintendent of Recreation Steve Peters said the 2013 numbers are in for the gym. Incredibly proud of his staff and the effort they have put forward over the last few years. They saw a 24.7% increase in revenue in 2013 over 2012. That's actually the 3rd time in the last 5 years they've seen a 24% jump from previous year. This year we had a 41% jump in new or renewed members. I'm not standing here just as me this is the Recreation Department doing this making this work.

Councilor O'Connell said he wanted to congratulate Steve and commend you and commend you on your efforts and your staff especially. I'm hoping we can do the same thing not just at the gym, but, everywhere else.

Mayor Calnon about the fact that we have received 2 proposals to operate a city marina; one from Navtours; one from Plattsburgh Boat Basin. Before we get to how and who we should select there I would like your thoughts on these preliminary questions:

1. Do we want to establish a City marina?

2. Should it be operated by the City of privately?
3. Do we need to make a decision on January 16th?

Mayor Calnon will do the following to assist the Council in making a decision:

1. The RFP was approved by the former Council and issued December 2014. It establishes the city objectives and evaluation criteria.

City objectives and proposal evaluation:

The City's objectives in developing a city marina are:

1. To maximize public use and enjoyment of the waterfront.
2. To promote the marina, the city and the region.
3. To make waterfront improvements that are safe, attractive and of the highest possible quality.
4. To provide a high level of maintenance and customer service.
5. To establish and operate the facility at no cost to the general fund.

The Proposal the City determines is most likely to achieve City objectives will be selected.

2. I will ask three city staff: Kevin Farrington, John Clute and Steve Peters and two city councilors to meet with me to discuss, evaluate and make recommendations to the Council as a whole.
3. We will submit a majority report and recommendation to the Council. If the recommendation is not unanimous, the dissenter(s) may submit a minority report.

[Discussion by the Mayor and Council on the city marina]

Councilor O'Connell said I received a call from a resident of Ward 4 and I wanted to publicly thank the Department of Public Works and Mike Fisher the call was that somebody had a problem with a man hole cover on Flaglar Drive and this resident was very pleased at the work effort and promptness they put in to it and wanted to let me know. I wanted you to tell Mike Fisher thanks from myself and keep up the good work, Mike.

Councilor Dowdle mentioned to Mike Brodi there is an annual concern as you come off Cogan Avenue and turn on Upper Cornelia. There's 2 lights and Warren Electric pushes all their snow right underneath one of those lights. That's such a tight corner now it's very difficult to maneuver. Either they need to be told not to pile it there or something. But they're using it. It's an ongoing; it's not just this storm that's doing it. It's an annual event. It stops the right hand turn. When they make deliveries there it's almost stopped traffic.

Superintendent Mike Brodi said he will take a look at it tomorrow.

Councilor Kretser said he would like to start a dialogue with the City Managers and Supervisors on thoughts about creating a new website for the City of Plattsburgh. I think there's a lot of missed opportunities and it's the first impression of our city. I think we can make a better first impression.

Councilor Kasper also wanted to thank Mike and his staff. We joked at the last meeting about trying to get at the fire hydrants rather it would take a jack hammer. But two days ago when I was driving I saw guys out there hammering away. I offer my gratitude for the work they were doing out there.

Councilor Armstrong wanted to enter in to the record a little update about South Catherine funding from the State and a lot of us have made inquiries and contacted our various elected officials, as well as officials at DOT, talked to Kevin. So everybody knows that we're waiting still for funding.

Councilor O'Connell was listening to WIRY and they said a portion of Margaret Street was closed off. Who closes that off?

Mayor Calnon said the Railroad. The notification from Emergency Management didn't come to me directly they still had the wrong email address. We got notice of it yesterday that said they needed to close it for emergency repairs. We will forward notices in the future.

Councilor O'Connell wanted the public to know that the "Closing Public Comments" has been brought back.

11. CLOSING PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

Motion to Adjourn by Councilor Kretser; Seconded by Councilor Kasper
Roll call Councilors Armstrong, Kelly, Dowdle, O'Connell, Kasper, Kretser
(All voted in the affirmative)

MEETING ADJOURNED: 6:17pm